

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please revise the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 9 of the specification as follows:

A secondary separator 20, which extends vertically inside the shredded tobacco feeding apparatus, has an upper end opening into the feed passage 8 on a downstream side of the separation chute 16 and has a lower end open to outside air. The upper end of the secondary separator 20 is bent in the direction of air flow in the feed passage 8, and air outlet holes (~~not shown~~)20a are formed in the secondary separator 20 in the vicinity of the junction with the feed passage 8 for jetting air from the secondary separator into the feed passage. Air in the secondary separator 20 is guided into the feed passage 8 due to the air jetted from the air outlet holes 20a, so that outside air is introduced into the secondary separator 20 from the lower open end thereof. The thus-introduced outside air creates an upward flow of air inside the secondary separator 20.